THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND (NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) During the year 1997-98 on going seismic surveys in Rajasthan are to be continued by ONGC. Exploratory locations are available in the areas where gas has been discovered by ONGC namely Sadewala and N. Bankia. OIL has also planned exploratory drilling of 5000 meters in their existing areas.

In addition following blocks in Rajasthan have also been awarded to private/multinational companies for exploration of oil and gas :-

Block	Name of Consortiums
RJ-ON-90/1	Shell International Production Development B.V. Netherlands.
RJ-ON-90/4	Essar Oil Ltd., India
RJ-ON-90/5	Essar Oil Ltd., India
RJ-ON/6	Phoenix Overseas Ltd., India
RJ-ONJ-94/1	Reliance Industries Ltd., India
JM-ONJ-1	European software Alliance Ltd., India and Okland International LDC, USA.

[Translation]

Hydro Power Generation

3843. SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved a proposal of the State-owned National Hydro Electric Power Corporation (NHPC) to enhance its authorised capital upto Rs. 1,000 crore;

(b) if so, the extent to which it help the NHPC to undertake new projects;

(c) the details of the projects which are likely to be undertake by the NHPC during the Ninth Five Year Plan. State-wise and year-wise;

(d) the total power in MW expected to be added in the hydel sector during the above period; and

(e) the details of projects which have obtained techno-economic clearance during 1995-96 and 1996-97

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The increase in the authorised capital of National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) from Rs. 2500 crores to Rs. 3500 crores would enable it to fund its on-going projects viz. Uri (480 MW), Dulhasti (390 MW), Rangit (60 MW) and Dhauliganga (280 MW). To undertake new projects, NHPC would have to enhance its authorised share capital further. While the Ninth Plan is under finalisation. The following Sanctioned/on-going projects of NHPC are scheduled for commissioning in the Ninth Plan:

Sl. No.	Project	Location	Capacity	Schedule dated for Commissioning
1.	Uri	Jammu & Kashmir	4x120=480 MW	3 Units to be commissioned in 1996-97 and 1 Unit of 120 MW in 1997-98.
2.	Dulhast	Jammu & Kashmir	3x130=390 MW	2001.
3.	Rangit	Sikkim	3x20=60 MW	1998-99

Besides, Dhauliganga Projects (280 MW) in Uttar Pradesh is scheduled for commissioning in the 10th Plan. Work has not yet started in Koel Karo Project (710 MW) in Bihar due to lack of availability of funds with NHPC.

(d) The Ninth Plan has not been finalised. However, the addition capacity in the hydel sector during the Ninth Plan would depend on various factors such as project preparedness, availability of financial resources etc.

(e) The details of hydel projects which have obtained techno-economic clearance in 1995-96 and 1996-97 are as under :

1995-96 - Nil
1996-97 :

Sl.No.	Project	State	Capacity (MW)	Executing agency	Estimated cost
1.	Adirappally	Kerala	2x80=160	Karnataka State Electricity Board	Rs. 150.16 crores
2.	Maheshwar (Private)	Madhya Pradesh	10x40=400	Shree Maheshwar Power Corporation Ltd.	US$213.29 Million Rs. 612.09 Crores.